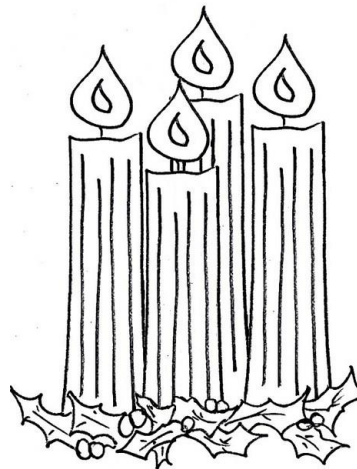


FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2023

9:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite II



639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 733-4125 • Pastoral Care Number: (727) 275-0257
www.COGSDunedin.com
E-Mail the church office: info@cogsdunedin.com

Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM

Our Sunday 10 AM service is livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Standing, sitting, and kneeling: Throughout the bulletin, there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

All music is reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense account #A-711594.

A gentle Reminder: Please enter the Nave quietly and reverently and silence your phones.

Most of the sung music is found in the blue hymnal, *The Hymnal, 1982*. In the bulletin, an "H" indicates the hymn section of the book; an "S" indicates it's from the service music section in the front of the book.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
(see the Advent Hymn, #54 in *The Hymnal, 1982*)

John Leavitt

[During the Voluntary, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

LYONS

[Please stand when the bells sound and face the Baptistry in the rear of the sanctuary.]

(all singing)

**The candle of love tells what we are worth:
God loves us so much, God came to the earth!
An angel brought news of a child who would be
the one who would save us and set us all free.**

Text © 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELLACOMBE

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.**

**He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.**

**To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.**

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

All Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Paul Hillebrand

(sing responsively)

Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All

Lord, have mer - cy,

Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All

Christ, have mer - cy,

Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All

Lord, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray... Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The people sit.

THE FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

Lector *The First Reading is taken from Second Samuel chapter 7...*

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about

in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 15

(all sing this refrain, the choir sings the verses)



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked upon his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: **(Refrain)**

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. **(Refrain)**

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy. **(Refrain)**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

Lector *The Second Reading is taken from Romans chapter 16....*

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Paul Hillebrand

(all sing the refrain twice, the choir sings the verse)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

Choir: Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word. **(Refrain)**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Deacon In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON *The people sit.*

The Rev. Whitney Burton

NICENE CREED *All stand as able.*

People

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
AMEN.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form II – BCP 385

Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION:

Please kneel or stand as able.

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence is kept.)*

People **Most merciful God,**
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. AMEN.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

Wondering

Jane Marshall

Choir with handbells

Come, sweet season of the Wonder, come, inflame our hearts again;

Holy Vision, go before us to earth's communion, God's Amen.

THE PRESENTATION

All stand as able.

Deacon We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God's world.

PRESENTATION HYMN

VENI EMMANUEL

Em G C D⁷ G D G C G
 Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm⁷ Em Am Em B⁷ Em A⁷ D Em
 here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D⁷ G D Em Bm G
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

15 C D⁷ Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord
 God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your
 glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is My Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity

of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
People **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
People **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM S-155

Gerald R. Near

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
*All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the
Chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you.
If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.*

COMMUNION

What Is This Lovely Fragrance?

arr. Paul Manz
(1919-2009)

COMMUNION HYMN H-66

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

STUTTGART

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art:
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray...

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE SENDING HYMN H-82 Of the Father's Love Begotten DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
(stanzas 1,2,4)

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

O that birth for ever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be;
honor, glory and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY Fanfare and Fugue on "Good King Wenceslas" Christopher Uehlein, OSB

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Whitney Burton
Deacon	The Rev. Cindy Roehl
Organist/Choirmaster	Tom Huffman
Crucifer/Server	Alice Scotti
Chalicer	Carey Cherivtch
Lectors	Nels Auger
Prayers of the People	Judith Auger
Ushers	Steve & Caroline Maisel
Building & Grounds	Pat Cates

Prayers are requested for:

The Week of Dec 17 – Ray S, Butch N, Roseanne M, Breanna B, Olivia C, David Q, Liz N, David B & family, Sharon G, June R, Billy B, Maureen B, Dede, Phil & family, Ainsley & family, Paul H, Bill GW, Raymond R, Bonnie L, Colette S, Heather S, Bob S, Milly L, Olena & family, Deborah B, Christopher J, Carol H & family, Suzy, Jeanne, Garry, Arlene, Ruthe F, Jason C, Betsy D, Cindy & Ron D, Jim W, Carol, Maggie, Julie L, Jay O, Adrianna P, Lou W, Debra M, Kipling, Carol B.

Celebrations this week: Birthdays – Nancy Fisher, Diane Linton, Sally Wakefield, Lisa Little, Donna Brotherhood, Jim Ratliff, and Bob DeStefano.

Anniversaries: Jerald & Janet Ozbun, Joseph Nixon & Miriam Benitez-Nixon.

Announcements

COGS Christmas Services:

Sunday, Dec 24 @ 5 PM – Family Christmas Eve Service and Plug-In Pageant – Live Streamed

Sunday, Dec 24 @ 9 PM – Candlelight Christmas Service – Live Streamed (Music begins at 8:30 PM)

Monday, Dec 25 @ 10 AM – Christmas Day Service (Note: incense will be used for this service.)

Dec 31 Service: We will celebrate together at one combined service next Sunday, Dec 31 @ 9:00 AM.

Office Closure: The church offices will be closed Dec 23 – Jan 1.